

TRIBUTE TO WOMAN OF HAWAII PAST, AND APPEAL TO WOMEN OF HAWAII OF THE PRESENT

A tribute to the memory of the great women of Hawaii, whose history for the islands in the days of the past, is paid in the following by a woman of the present, who is bearing the scars of the long making of the United States today. Reviewing the accomplishments of Kapiolani, Kaahumanu and others whose names adorn the pages of Hawaiian history, Mrs. Catherine M. Smith urges that the women of Hawaii of today join with the women suffragists of the Union in their work for the franchise.

Mrs. Smith is a life member of the Woman's National Suffrage League and has been a delegate to its annual conventions. She was for two years secretary of the Colorado Equal Suffrage Association, which is auxiliary to the national association. She was one of the lobby that worked for and gained the passage of the pending suffrage amendment to the Colorado constitution after the straw vote taken in the senate showed that it stood to be overwhelmingly defeated. She is now president of the second largest suffrage club in Washington.

TO THE WOMEN OF HAWAII. By Catherine M. Smith.

Everyone who visits these beautiful islands for any length of time must of necessity be deeply impressed by the character of the women, both white and native women; on every side and everywhere one is confronted by the evidences of the work, the power, of women. In what city in the world can you find more magnificent testimonials

of a woman's love and greatness than in Hawaii, with your schools, colleges, hospitals and homes, and museums and parks, all either established by, or in memory of, women? It would seem to an uninitiated observer that most of the progress is due to women. As the men are or a civilization is derived by the character and action of the women, the degree of development which has been attained here is not a matter of surprise.

It has been my good fortune to have been present during that splendid "woman movement," the recent petition to congress for the right to vote on the prohibition question. Never have I seen such wonderful initiative, such masterly organization, and such noble responses—all elements of the character of Hawaiian women. I could readily appreciate the work of the white women, but not until I read the history of Hawaii could I understand the position of the Hawaiian women. I am simply amazed beyond expression by the energies, the deeds and the wisdom of these wonderful women—what a heritage to leave for posterity! Where in the annals of any nation will you read of three greater women than Kapiolani, Keopulohi and Kaahumanu? Contemplate the moral courage of Kapiolani defying Pili. To my mind it has never been equaled by any man or woman before or since, and the marvelous strength of character and bravery of purpose displayed by Kaahumanu and Keopulohi in breaking the ancient and deadly taboo against women, punishable by death, followed by the masterly statesmanship and wisdom of Kaahumanu as premier. Here are three women whose greatness has been recognized by the civilized world in the world's history; whose lives should be read, and example emulated by every woman in the world today. Women of Hawaii! You should glory in your heritage, and make yourselves worthy of that heritage by doing your duty as citizens of your country today.

You are ready for suffrage if ever women were, for what is true citizenship but the desire to do the right thing for one's self and one's fellowman? Let no one tell you God has denied you that equality with man—awake! Arise yourselves to the knowledge of the fact that you are now an integral part of that great republic whose constitution critics say is "not his home or native land," the United States are citizens, as if the right is denied.

It is true that a majority of the U. S. Supreme Court decided that women are not persons in the eyes of the law, but what is the majority? Therefore not all men are persons. There have, however, been themselves, President and the fundamental principles of the government was founded, retaining the same, the basic one being that all men are born free and equal with equal opportunity for the pursuit of life, liberty and happiness. This opportunity being guaranteed by the right to vote, the men who claim that women are not persons, are denying that opportunity, while she is denied the right to vote, ignorant and foolish, unjust and wicked.

The women of Hawaii have asked for the right to vote on the prohibition question because it affects their happiness, and were denied. In reality every question of government, national, state and municipal, as vitally affects the welfare of every man and woman in the commonwealth. This government is an institution for the promotion and preservation of the happiness of every member, not merely for a privileged class, but for every individual member. Individual happiness is only possible of attainment when every member of the commonwealth is granted the same opportunity for attainment.

How is this opportunity for happiness guaranteed? By laws enacted by the people regulating and controlling all questions pertaining to government, sanitation, public health, pure food and water, public utilities and necessities, preservation of the public safety, education, morals, the punishment and prevention of crime, international relations, war, tariff, and revenue, business and commerce. Who will dare deny that every one of these questions as vitally and seriously affects the hap-

pinness and welfare of women as well as men?

The woman who does not demand the right to vote on every question of government is not doing her duty to her self nor her fellows, for she is denying the right of citizenship to others and abridging her own opportunities.

To prove that we are rapidly arriving at a more and more solid solution of the problems of government it is only necessary to view the condition of the women's suffrage movement in the United States. In our states—Colorado, Wyoming, Utah and Idaho—women have full suffrage; Washington, Oregon, South Dakota and Oklahoma have full suffrage; to be added in the fall. And every where woman's suffrage is a burning issue. New York, especially, is the stronghold of suffrage. Not only tens of thousands of working women, but tens of thousands of rich women of the highest social prestige are demanding it in no uncertain terms; the leading magazines and newspapers are full of the subject and the leading men of the nation including President Taft, Mr. Roosevelt, United States Chief Justice Fuller and senators, congressmen, judges, governors and leading men in every profession are in favor of it.

So surely it is opportune for the women of Hawaii to claim the franchise now and demand suffrage. How can you obtain suffrage? In two ways: By an act of your territorial legislature; or an amendment to the United States Constitution.

A resolution for such an amendment has already been introduced in the senate by Senator Borah of Idaho, on February 22. When this comes up for passage, the first week in May, a petition, signed by one million men and women from all parts of the Union, will be presented, asking for its passage. This petition has been secured by the National Woman's Suffrage Association. As the amendment will give full suffrage to women in every State and Territory of the Union, it is surely eminently fitting that Hawaii, which has so recently petitioned for the right to vote on one question, should join in the petition for the right to vote on every question which affects the happiness of woman.

All those who desire to aid this petition work, please call up 891. I will gladly outline the plan of work necessary, and later publish the instructions of the author of The Advertiser will

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WAS UP TO DATE

The Hackensack (N. J.) Republican of March 3 says:

"The excursion steamer Cleveland, with more than 700 passengers, including Mayor Linker and wife of Hackensack, had a great reception at Honolulu. Representatives of all manner of clubs and organizations went out in vessels fully decked, with bands playing and choruses singing an inspiring welcome. The city was ablaze with flags and flowers, every tourist was collared

with a wreath of roses, and there was a brilliant carnival time during the stay. The Sunday Advertiser printed a special illustrated edition—and a very fine one at that—and gave a full list of the party. A note from the Mayor says the experience was beyond adequate description. It is evident that the Hawaiians are in line with the States in everything termed up to date. The Advertiser's description of the affair is a highly creditable exhibit of live journalism."

The rite of confirmation will be administered in St. Clement's Church this morning at 11 o'clock by the bishop of the diocese. Seats are free, and all are cordially invited.

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